



Bond sales will pay for 2 county centers

By BILL ROGERS

Sun Staff Writer

The county Board of Supervisors Tuesday authorized final steps toward construction of the proposed new \$32 million West Valley law and justice center in Rancho Cucamonga.

The supervisors also settled on a financing method calling for bond sales of \$74.7 million to pay for that project and for the \$22 million office building they are planning to construct just north of the County Courthouse in San Bernardino.

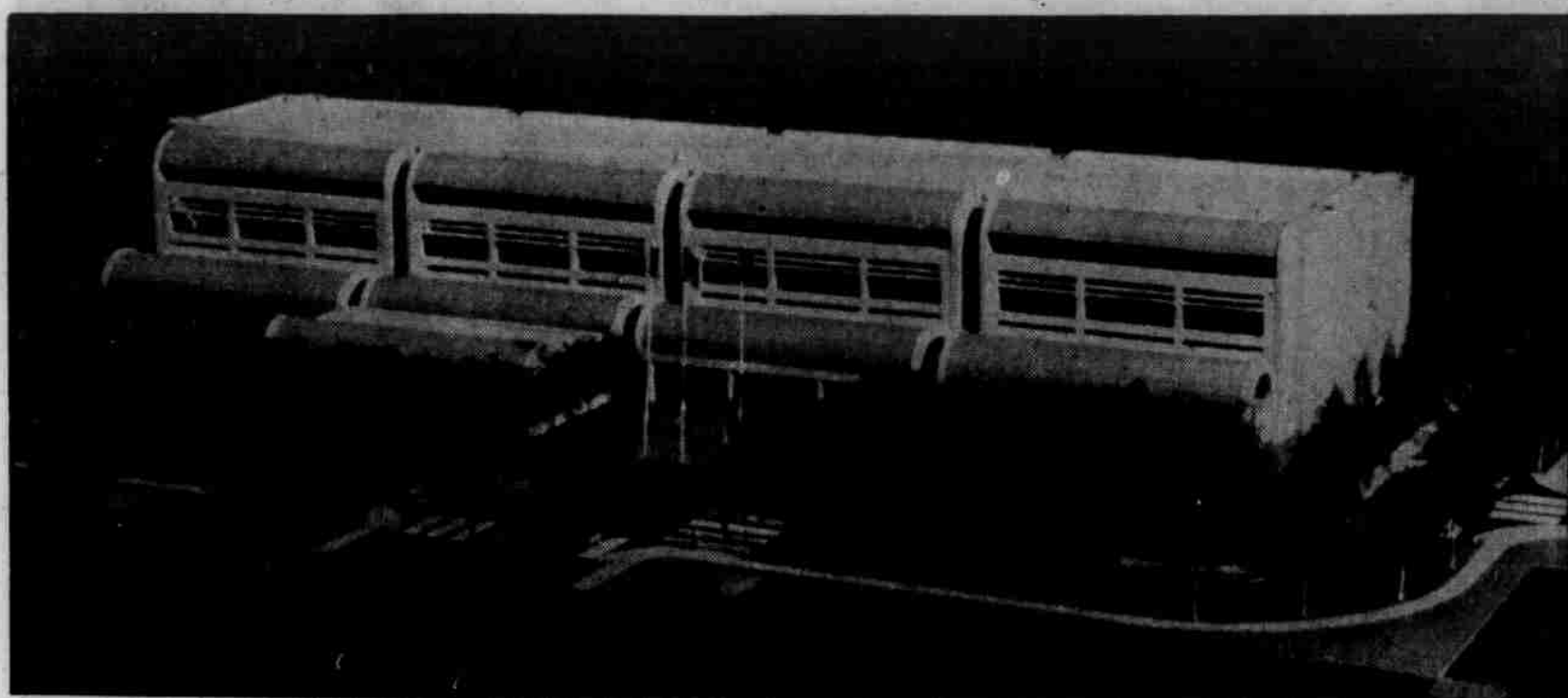
Architects unveiled preliminary plans for a five-story, 253,000-square-foot structure that will

house 19 courtrooms and offices of related departments on a site southeast of the Foothill Boulevard-Haven Avenue intersection in Rancho Cucamonga. The city is planning to build a city hall and cultural center on an adjoining site along Haven.

Construction of the law and justice facility is expected to start by December and to be completed by October 1984.

The board asked for further consultations on three problems, including objections by judges against a proposal to keep some West Valley courts at the county's

(Please see Sales, B-4)



Architect's rendering of \$32 million law and justice center in Rancho Cucamonga.

Wilson Hanna dies

COLTON — Ornithologist Wilson Creal Hanna, 98, affectionately known here as "the birdman of Colton," has died at his home on North La Cadena Drive.

A spokesman at Colton Funeral Chapel said Tuesday Hanna died Monday. Services and burial arrangements are pending and will be announced today.

A retired California-Portland Cement Co. executive, Hanna gained international recognition as a leading expert on birdlife and egg collecting. His hobby, which began in 1902, continued through his life and his collections are on permanent display at the San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands.

Hanna was born in Leadville, Colo., Nov. 18, 1883, and moved to California in 1884.

Church service discussion postponed

By HOWARD ELLIS

Sun Staff Writer

COLTON — Discussion of whether Valley Community Church is legally conducting services at a mobile home park, scheduled for Tuesday, has been postponed by the Planning Commission to next month.

Attorney Linda Thornton, retained by the city as a "neutral counselor," attended the commission's Tuesday session and said she would review accumulated in-

formation and be prepared to offer an opinion at its next session, April 14.

"I'm only here tonight to introduce myself," she said.

A delegation of Lake Cadena Mobile Home Park residents who oppose use of their clubhouse, and Pastor Duane Minkler representing his congregation of 60, were in the commission chambers but left after Thornton made her announcement.

Phyllis Brooks, a resident who told the commission March 9 the

church use violated state codes and the city's park conditional use permit, complained, "do you see what they are doing, they're denying us an opportunity to be heard."

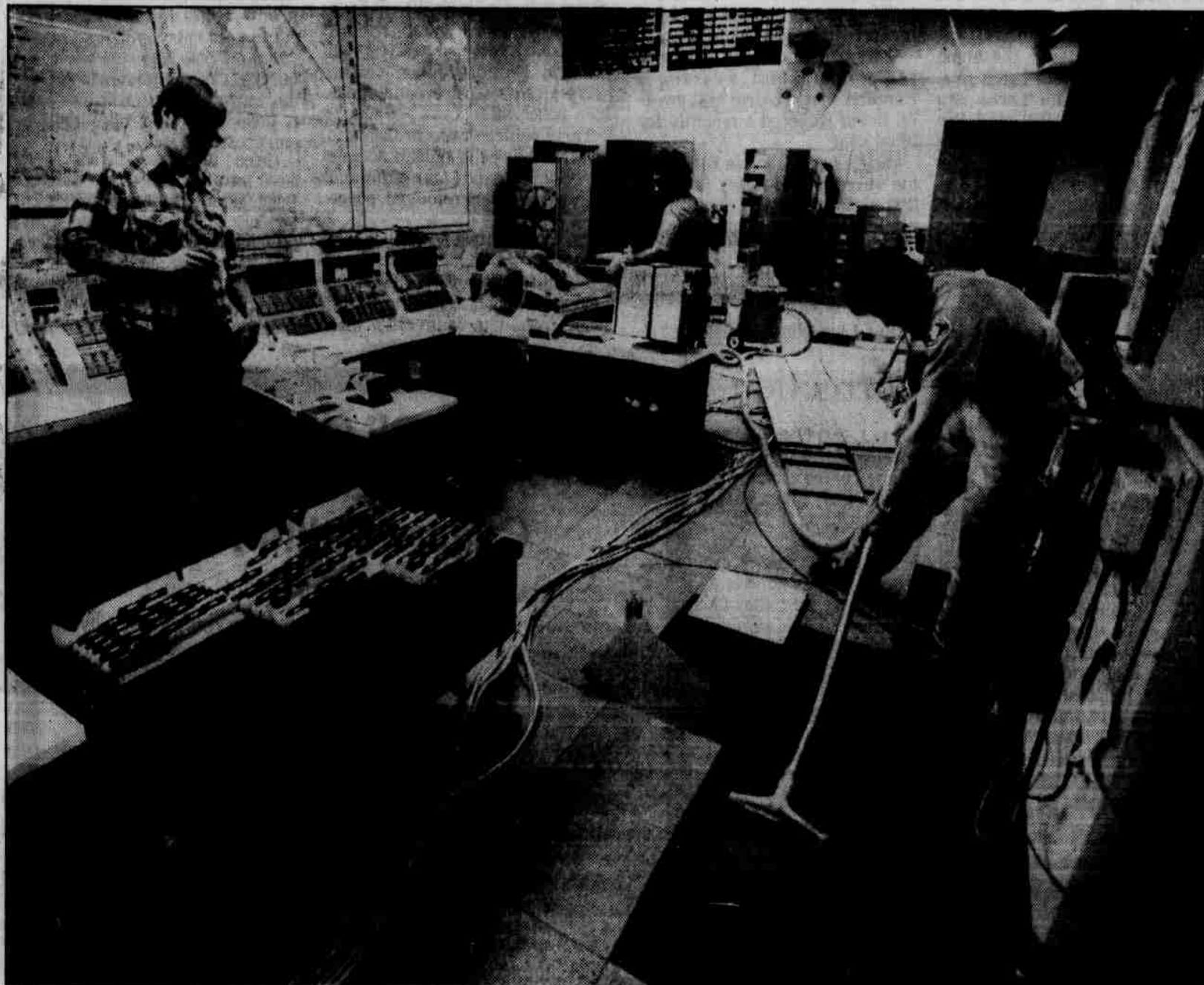
"It's just political, they're postponing it until after the election," another resident said. The city's council election is scheduled for April 13.

Thornton, on her way out of City Hall, was surrounded by the Lake Cadena delegation and stayed a while to listen to their viewpoints.

Thornton, of Best, Best and Krieger Attorneys, Riverside, was retained on the recommendation of City Manager Robert Trevino.

City Attorney Steve Edwards, who also serves as commission counsel, lives at the South La Cadena Drive park. So it was decided it would be more appropriate to have an "outside" attorney.

Minkler said 18 of his congregation live at the park and he has the owner's permission to conduct Sunday services.



Staff photo by Jim Edwards

Al Maghsadi, right, vacuums water from Communications Center floor. At left is dispatcher Leonard Temby. The cables stretched across the floor were moved from below the flooring.

Waterlogged county offices move

By JAN SEARS

Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Dodging puddles and stepping carefully across slippery floors, workers moved the coroner and public guardian out of their soggy basement offices beneath the county library here Tuesday.

It was not known whether the moves were permanent, but water officials warned that the county library basement may not be the only one endangered by the city's

rising groundwater table.

They speculated that the underground water may be within inches of the basements of other county buildings, possibly including the Hall of Records and the Public Health Department. There have been no reports of water in those basements yet, however.

Remaining in the wet library basement, at least for the moment, are employees of the office of emergency services, whose work includes coordinating the rescue

of flood victims, and the county communications center.

Joanie James, county information officer, said late Tuesday that officials will continue to monitor the amount of water being removed from the building — 500 to 600 gallons per hour — and the level of the water table beneath it — about 13 feet — for at least another 24 hours before making a decision on a permanent move.

The basement workers who remained Tuesday found themselves

laboring under trying conditions, at best.

The atmosphere in the basement was humid and employees had to shout to be heard above the constant roar of several water vacuums that were operating continuously in a futile effort to keep up with the ever-growing puddles.

Some employees wore rubber boots so they could slosh through

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Rialto Exchange Club's 'guiding force' honored

By CONNIE RUTH

Sun Staff Writer

RIALTO — Richard Althar isn't much for praise or compliments.

So when the Exchange Club of Rialto presented him with a special award Tuesday, it isn't surprising that he responded this way:

"I certainly appreciate this, even if you are a bunch of liars."

Club members, familiar with Althar's sense of humor, responded with much laughter and applause.

Actually, Tuesday's luncheon celebration was cut short, because Althar had been commended for his 16 years' service to the club at the club's Ladies Night meeting last week.

Referring to the praise heaped on him at that meeting, Althar told Dr. R.E. Elsey, who presented him with the Book of Golden Deeds, "this fellow should be in Holly-

wood. He got up there and told so many lies."

Then, on a more serious note, the 85-year-old said of the award, "I didn't expect it. I don't believe I'm entitled to it..."

At that point, someone in the audience interrupted with, "Now, he's lying."

"All right, I'll shut up," Althar said and took his seat.

Althar was club president in 1970-71 and led the club to its first excellence award. He also was praised for holding each elected office, most of them twice, and all with "honor and distinction."

He was a speaker for several area Exchange Club Freedom Shrine dedications and worked with community clergy on the One Nation Under God programs.

Althar was described as "a guiding force in all areas of the Exchange Club of Rialto."

Davenport bankruptcy case

Lawyer protests letter sent to Adventist suit claimants

By ART WONG and

JAMES NICKLES

Sun Staff Writers

A letter surveying claimants in a \$35 million class-action suit against the Seventh-day Adventist Church threatens to undermine the Pacific Northwest lawsuit, attorneys for the claimants said Tuesday.

Attorney Ernest Ching said the church has initiated a letter-writing and telephone campaign aimed at forcing an out-of-court settlement and a renouncement of claims stemming from loans to post office builder Donald J. Davenport.

A church attorney labeled the charge as "basically ridiculous" and noted the letters were approved by a judge.

Attorney Douglas Foley said the letters were intended to inform

potential claimants who fear the loss of trust funds invested with the church.

Ching said the church campaign could stem a series of lawsuits across the nation that are expected to arise from the \$55 million bankruptcy case of Donald J. Davenport.

Davenport, a former Long Beach surgeon who was loaned millions of dollars by individual Adventists and by church organizations, filed for bankruptcy last summer and named among his creditors a dozen residents of the San Bernardino area including Loma Linda University President V. Nor-skov Olson.

Among the regional church boards that loaned Davenport funds were the Pacific Union Con-

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✓ Colton High School to stage 'The Wizard of Oz' . . . B-2

\$2.4 million approved for justice programs

SAN BERNARDINO — The Board of Supervisors has approved an advisory committee's annual recommendation for allocating \$2.4 million of state funds among county departments and private organizations for support of special juvenile and adult probation, rehabilitation and prosecution programs in 1982-83.

The action had the effect of turning down late-hour funding

appeals to the board by three community groups that are among departments and organizations whose 19 program proposals were left without allocations.

Supervisor David McKenna, leading Monday's action, warned it would be a "dangerous precedent" to reverse recommendations of the county's Justice System Advisory Group "without a showing of conflict of interest or some seri-

ous charge." He noted the advisers spent much time on the allocation reviews and added that they should not be told that "what you did was just a dry run."

To no avail, appeals were made last week by High Desert Parents United for \$51,000 to expand its child abuse counseling services, by West Mountains Community Services for \$10,000 for a juvenile diversion program and by Aztlan

for an increase from \$48,000 to \$75,000 to support its West Valley juvenile crime prevention program.

County Administrative Officer Robert Rigney cautioned that a cut in the Probation Department's allocation for intensive juvenile probation supervision from \$270,000 to \$155,000 will pose prob-

(Please see Justice, B-4)

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